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June 10, 2005

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Sharla Dillon, Docket Manager Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37238

Re:

Coalition of Small Lec's

Docket Nos. 04-00380

Dear Ms. Dillon:

Enclosed is an original and fourteen copies of the Petition for Emergency Relief and Request for Standstill Order By the Tennessee Rural Independent for filing in the above docket.

Thank you for your assistance.

WTR:sm m **Enclosures**

cc:

All Counsel of Record

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BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITYN 10 PM 4: 15 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:)	19.A. DODLIET ROCK
)	
BELLSOUTH TARIFF FILING TO)	
INTRODUCE TRANSIT TRAFFIC)	DOCKET NO. 04-00380
SERVICE, TARIFF NO. 04-01259)	
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PETITION FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF AND REQUEST FOR STANDSTILL ORDER BY THE TENNESSEE RURAL INDEPENDENT COALITION

The Tennessee Rural Independent Coalition (hereinafter "the Coalition") respectfully submits this Petition, by counsel, for emergency relief and a standstill order directing BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") to refrain from collecting transit fees with reference to existing settlement arrangements, including the June 2005 settlement statement, and mechanisms currently in effect between BellSouth and the Coalition.

- 1. Bellsouth is proposing to collect transit fees from the Coalition, via the inter-company settlements through a "netting" process. This would allow BellSouth to receive payment prior to the Coalition companies having an opportunity to review and/or approve the details of the transit charge.
- 2. The current settlement process has its origins in the manner intra-lata toll, private line revenues, and other transactions are settled. For example, the Coalition companies concur in BellSouth's intra-lata toll tariff, and bill the Coalition's customers on behalf of Bellsouth. BellSouth is liable for access charges payable to the Coalition companies for these same toll minutes. For administrative ease, the settlement process was developed to net the difference between the toll due BellSouth and the access due the Coalition companies. The netting that occurs within the settlement

process results in a single check being issued to BellSouth or the Coalition company and expedites the payment of the normal and recurring transactions. At the end of each billing cycle, there is either an amount due BellSouth or due the Coalition companies.

- 3. BellSouth plans to handle transit fees in the settlement process. As described above, this will result in BellSouth being automatically compensated for these fees by the Coalition companies. Transit fees differ in that this is a new charge involving massive amounts of data. Transit fees are calculated using traffic data recorded and processed by BellSouth, for most of the Coalition companies. The Coalition rightfully deserves the opportunity to review the transit data and approve the associated charges prior to payment being made to BellSouth.
- 4. A cursory review of the initial transit traffic data prepared by BellSouth has resulted in massive adjustments. BellSouth has concurred in most if not all of the errors identified by Coalition companies. Therefore, the Coalition is requesting that BellSouth issue separate invoices and not include transit fees in the settlement process and to allow Coalition members additional time to review the adequacy of the data provided.
- 5. In addition, there are several questions regarding the types of traffic that should be subject to the BellSouth transit traffic tariff. The Coalition seeks clarification from the Authority regarding the applicability of County Wide Calling, Metro Area Calling and specifically whether Internet (ISP) traffic is subject to an Intrastate Tariff.
- 6. Finally, the Coalition requests the Authority to require BellSouth to justify the use of and explain the development of a "market" based rate and explain the tandem office options that exist for Coalition companies.

WHEREFORE, THESE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Coalition respectfully requests that the TRA issue an order to direct BellSouth to standstill and refrain from collecting the transit

fees relative to existing settlement terms including the June 2005 statement, pending clarification from the TRA regarding the interpretation and application of certain settlement provisions.

The Coalition further prays for relief as may be deemed proper by this Authority.

Respectfully submitted,

NEAL & HARWELL, PLC

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on June 10, 2005, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via the method indicated:

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